



Peace & Joy

Romans 5: 1-5

2010 Lenten Meditations

Written by Parishioners of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral / Compiled by The Daughters of the Holy Cross

Masthead courtesy of Susan Craig

Friday, February 26 **Mark 2:13- 22**

As the mother of two little boys who do not always make it a priority to be “first time listeners,” I am quite impressed by Jesus’ simple calling of His followers, and their immediate response. In this second chapter of Mark, not only does Levi follow Jesus on command, he even has a dinner party for Jesus and others at his home. Can you imagine – Levi, a tax collector – gathered with many other “sinners” around the table, eating and talking with Jesus? Jesus, our Lord, associating with such a crowd? Of course you can, and so can I. Jesus was in His element; spending time with those society deemed as “less than”, teaching them about a new way. The Pharisees sure enjoyed questioning Jesus about the company He kept, as well as His lack of regard for fasting and other traditional ways.

Jesus used this party as His opportunity to remind the Pharisees and others of His purpose – to gather people from all walks of life, to teach them about a new path, a new day, and a new way of living. This bridegroom’s hour had not yet come, and so the old ways of fasting and keeping outward signs of piety were simply unnecessary and out of touch. Jesus’ familiar metaphors of new cloth patches and old wine and new wineskins remind us that we, too, more than 2000 years after His death, can easily forget His promise of new life.

May we be first time listeners of our Lord and follow Him – throughout this Lenten journey, straight to the cross, and into a renewed knowing of everlasting life.

Sally T. McKay

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